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MANAHAWKIN BUREAU

The ongoing Long Beach Island beach replenishment project has received a funding boost from the federal Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

The act represents an earmarked \$4.8 million for the ongoing project. The act was approved by the Senate and House conference committee earlier this week. The final bill includes nearly \$5 million for beach replenishment projects from Barnegat Inlet to Little Egg Inlet.

In addition, the bill provides \$334,000 for the dredging of Barnegat Inlet and \$385,000 for the New Jersey Intracoastal Waterway project.

"This is great news for our Shore communities," said Rep. John Adler, D-N.J. "Beach replenishment funding is critical to our local economy.

"I am pleased that Congress is taking a step in the right direction and sending this money to help LBI and our local economy," Adler added.

In June, the House of Representatives' Committee on Appropriations earmarked \$600,000 for the ongoing Long Beach Island beach replenishment project in the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill.

The project aims to increase the size of Long Beach Island beaches and dunes. The first part of it was completed in Surf City.

The next phase of the project is scheduled in Harvey Cedars.